



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

May - 2015 Volume 15, Issue 5

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Susan Mosier, Secretary

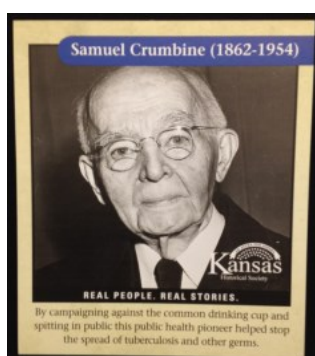
Sam Brownback, Governor

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## Crumbine Brass Plaque Installed on Kansas Walk of Honor

*from the Communications Office, KDHE*



Governor Sam Brownback and the Kansas Historical Society announced in April the installation of six new brass plaques on the Kansas Walk of Honor. The Kansas Walk of Honor is located on the sidewalks of the Kansas State Capitol grounds. Begun in 2011, the Walk features people who have contributed on a state and national level and have significant connections to Kansas. Among the six honorees is [Dr. Samuel Crumbine](#). Crumbine is most known for replacing the common drinking cup with paper cups to prevent the spread of tuberculosis and the “don’t spit on the sidewalk” campaign. He was the inventor of the flyswatter and encouraged the public to “swat the fly” to combat the insect’s spread of disease. He served as secretary for the state board of health, now KDHE, from 1904 - 1923. Other honorees include, Clyde Cessna, Walter Chrysler, John Steuart Curry, Gordon Parks and William Allen White.



## Child Care Licensing Healthy Smiles Initiative

*by Lori Steelman, Director, Child Care Licensing  
Bureau of Family Health, KDHE*



Early Care and Youth Program, Child Care Licensing is partnering with the Bureau of Oral Health (BOH) Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Oral Health of Kansas, Child Care Aware of Kansas (CCA), and Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities (KCCTO) in an oral health initiative focused in southwest Kansas.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Tooth decay is one of the most common chronic conditions of childhood in the United States. Untreated tooth decay can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing and learning.” Data shows that in southwest Kansas children enter into Kindergarten with highest rates of untreated decay for the state. The goal of the initiative is to change behavior and implement practices in day care homes and group day care homes by engaging and educating providers, children, parents, licensing surveyors, local child care resource and referral agencies and others within the community and to ultimately reduce the rate of untreated decay upon entering school.

A kick-off is planned for Saturday, May 2 in Dodge City to be held at the Dodge City Community College Child Development Center. The five Dodge City licensed child care centers and preschool children have been invited to come and receive a free dental screening conducted by Jennifer Ferguson, RDH, Children’s Oral Health Program Manager with the Bureau of Oral Health, KDHE. Participating centers will receive an educational kit that will include oral health supplies and educational materials.

Following the kick-off Ferguson will travel May 4 - 8 to 43 Licensed and Group Licensed Day Care Home Providers in Garden City, Dodge City, Kiowa, and Comanche. With parental permission each child in care will receive a free dental screening. Prior to the screening visits, providers will be required to complete the two hour Oral Health online training offered by KCCTO. The training is focused on dental hygiene and nutrition with guidance for implementing change in business practices to include a daily routine for tooth brushing after meals and tooth brush replacement. Providers will also receive the educational kit.

Additional trainings will be made available late spring by CCA and KCCTO to providers across the state. Please direct questions to Lori Steelman at [cclr@kdheks.gov](mailto:cclr@kdheks.gov).

## In the Spotlight-Harvey County Health Department Partners With Schools to Promote Immunizations

*by Lynnette Redington, Director, Harvey County Health Department*



Are you thinking about trying something outside the box this spring to promote adolescent vaccinations. Harvey County Health Department recognized the need for sixth graders to be ready for seventh grade with their Tdap vaccinations. This year Harvey County joined forces with their largest school district to host two school-located vaccination clinics promoting the convenience of getting Tdap, HPV and Meningococcal vaccines at school. Contact the Harvey County Health Department at [lredington@harveycounty.com](mailto:lredington@harveycounty.com) for more information. Click the Public Health logo to view the event flier.

## Public Health Leadership Institute Applications Now Being Accepted



COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

*by Kathleen Brandert, Director,  
Great Plains Public Health Leadership Institute*

The Great Plains Public Health Leadership Institute (GPPHLI) is a yearlong program for leaders in public health who are interested in enhancing their knowledge base and skill sets in key leadership areas. Over the course of 12 months, scholars in the Institute put attention and focus on self, "Who am I as a leader; What style/s do I use to lead; others, "How can I build effective teams; How does my leadership affect others in my organization," and the public health system, "How can I influence the public health system through my leadership."

The Institute features:

- Three multi-day onsite intensives
- Nine distance-based topical webinars
- At least three leadership assessments, including a 360° assessment
- Development of a team project
- Experience with a mentor
- Experience with peer coaching
- Access to executive coaching services
- Access to faculty nationwide with expertise in leadership

Applications for Year 11 of GPPHLI will be available May 1 and due June 26. A limited number of stipends are available through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for those living in and/or serving rural areas of Kansas.

More information about curriculum, the scholar experience, and application materials can be found online at [www.greatplainsleadership.org](http://www.greatplainsleadership.org) or by contacting Kathleen Brandert, GPPHLI Director, at [kbrandert@unmc.edu](mailto:kbrandert@unmc.edu) or 402-552-7256.

## APHA Oral Health Section Announces Student Award Applications Now Available

*from the Oral Health Section – APHA*



The Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) announced the student award categories for 2015 and open the call for nominations. Applications for the Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Pre-Professional Student Award sponsored by Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals and the Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Post-professional Student Award sponsored by DENTSPLY International are due Monday, May 11, 1:59 p.m. The awards were established in memory of the late Anthony Westwater Jong in recognition of his commitment to community-based dental public health, his strong and highly acclaimed mentoring of students, and his emphasis on the importance of state, local and community based public health action.

The awards will be presented during the APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Chicago, IL, October 31 - November 4. More information and an application can be accessed by clicking the APHA logo.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Regional Public Health Meetings Begin April 9

*by Teri Caudle, Public Health Nurse Specialist,  
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*

Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on KS-TRAIN <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID: [1056413](#).

The agenda includes: EpiTrax Upcoming Changes and Trainings; Kansas HPV Vaccination Project: Working Together to Protect Our Youth; Population Monitoring in the Aftermath of a Radiation Incident. The dates and locations are:

- May 6 – Hutchinson (SC)
- May 21 – Oakley (NW)
- May 22 – Garden City (SW)
- June 3 – Beloit (NC)
- June 9 – Topeka (NE)

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at [tcaudle@kdheks.gov](mailto:tcaudle@kdheks.gov).



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## New Data Added to Kansas Health Matters

by Greg Crawford, Director, Vital Statistics Data Analysis  
Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE



**Kansas Health Matters**

The first quarter indicator update cycle has been completed and the newly updated indicators have been released to the Kansas Health Matters (KHM) site for public viewing. Updated indicators are:

- Percentage of Screened 3-12 Grade Students w No Dental Sealants
- Percentage of Screened K-12 Grade Students w Obvious Dental Decay
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Rate
- Staffed Hospital Bed Ratio
- Ratio of Children to Adults
- Ratio of Elderly Persons and Children to Adults
- Ratio of Elderly Persons to Adults
- Uninsured Adult Population Rate
- Rate of Violent Crime per 1,000 population

The KHM Site URL is <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/>. Kansas Health Matters has also activated a report submission page. A new form has been added for people to submit article links to the report center. The button to access the link is located in the report center: <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/index.php?module=Article&func=collection&cid=1>.

Kansas Health Matters is a partnership for improving community health. Partners include Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Health Institute, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Health Foundation, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved.

## Kansas Information for Communities Features Added

Two new selections have been added to the FastStats page of the KIC website, these selections are Toxic Release Inventory – Kansas Counties and Community Health Status Indicators. The Toxic Release Inventory is a listing of toxic chemicals that are emitted to the air, water, or placed in some type of land disposal; in a given county, this information is compiled and maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



The “Community Health Status Indicators”, is a web application that produces health profiles for all 3,143 counties in the United States. Each profile includes key indicators of health outcomes, which describe the population health status of a county and factors that have the potential to influence health outcomes, such as health care access and quality, health behaviors, social factors and the physical environment.

## Preliminary Abortion Report Published



The Department of Health and Environment has posted the report, Abortions in Kansas, 2014, Preliminary Report to the KDHE Website. The link to the 2014 report is at <http://www.kdheks.gov/hci/absumm.html>. The report is composed of two PDF file sections: [data summary](#) and [appendices](#). You will need [Acrobat Reader](#) to view the documents. There were 7,263 abortions reported in 2014, a decrease from final 2013 reports (222 fewer). The number of Kansas residents obtaining abortions in 2014 (3,685) decreased by 2.1 percent from final 2013 reports (3,763). Please feel free to contact the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics with any questions you have, by calling 785-296-8627 or e-mailing [Kansas.Health.Statistics@kdheks.gov](mailto:Kansas.Health.Statistics@kdheks.gov).

## Preliminary Birth Report Issued

The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics has released Preliminary Birth Report, Kansas, 2014. As of March 25, The Kansas Department of Health and Environment’s Office of Vital Statistics had recorded 39,201 births to Kansas resident mothers in 2014, an increase of 1.0 percent from 38,805 births in 2013. The birth rate rose from 13.4 per 1,000 population in 2013 to 13.5 in 2014. The counts and rates presented in the Kansas Annual Summary of Vital Statistics, 2014 may be slightly higher, since additional births may be reported for Kansas residents who gave birth in other states. The full report is available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/phi/research.html>. For further inquiry about additional data needs call 785-296-8627.

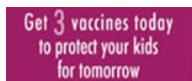
## About National Women’s Health Week



National Women’s Health Week is an observance led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [Office on Women’s Health](#). The goal is to empower women to make their health a priority. The week also serves as a time to help women understand what steps they can take to improve their health. The 16th Annual National Women’s Health Week kicks off on Mother’s Day, May 10, and is celebrated until May 16.

## HPV Education Opportunities Announced as Part of the Get 3 Vaccines Campaign

*by Stephanie Lambert-Barth, Project Manager,  
HPV Vaccination, KFMC*



Melinda Wharton, MD, MPH, Director, Immunization Services Division, National Center for Immunization & Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will visit Kansas the first week of May. From noon - 1:00 p.m., May 6, a special session of the Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds, You Are the Key to

HPV Cancer Prevention: Understanding the Burden of HPV Disease, the Importance of the HPV Vaccine Recommendation, and Communicating about HPV Vaccination will be offered via webinar. There is no cost to participate, and continuing education units are available for physicians, APRNs, nurses and social workers. Registration is limited to the first 75 computers with the deadline to register, April 30. [Click here for the registration instructions.](#)

The evening of May 6, the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care (KFMC) is hosting a free screening of the film Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic, at Union Station's H&R Block Stage. Activities will begin at 5:00 p.m., with the film viewing starting at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited. [Click here for event details.](#)

In addition to these two activities, there are several provider meetings scheduled May 6 and 7. If you are in the Kansas City or Wichita areas and would like more details about opportunities to participate in these discussions, contact Stephanie Lambert-Barth, the Kansas HPV Vaccination Project Manager, at [slambert@kfmc.org](mailto:slambert@kfmc.org).

In March, KFMC kicked off its communications campaign to increase public awareness about the three vaccines that are due for pre-teens ages 11 and 12: HPV, Meningococcal, and Tdap. A variety of strategies are being used to reach teens and their parents. Featured outreach materials include a webpage, Pandora radio ads, digital ads, Facebook ads, and a postcard mailing. Through this outreach we expect to make over 4 million impressions on the population of Kansas. In addition, marketing materials are available for distribution to providers and other stakeholder partners. A complete list of materials is below:

- Poster for parent audience (English or Spanish)
- Poster for teen audience (English or Spanish)
- Digital advertisements & embeddable files
- Print mailer for parent audience
- Printed postcards
- Social media blast

To request materials visit [public.kfmc.org](http://public.kfmc.org) and click: 3protectkids campaign materials.

KFMC expects that healthcare providers and health departments will see an increase in calls for additional information regarding getting their preteen or teen vaccinated.

## Building on the Past and Looking to the Future: Staff Development Event at Riley County Health Department

*by Brenda Nickel, Administrator,  
Riley County Health Department and  
Sonja Armbruster, CCSR, Wichita State University*



In March 2015, the Riley County Health Department (RCHD) led its inaugural all staff training with facilitation support from the Center for Community Support and Research (CCSR) Public Health Initiatives Team. In December 2014, after surveying local health departments, Riley County department directors and presenting the importance of professional and leadership development for public health professionals, RCHD received permission from the Board of Health to hold quarterly in-service for all staff closing the department during those times.

Riley County Health Department staff started the training with a timeline activity where staff learned about their peers and the history of the department. After a short review of major public health milestones, Riley County staff mapped their daily activities to the 10 essential services. The afternoon closed with a focus on teams and culture change. In the evaluations, staff reported that the most helpful parts of the event included:

- Learning about the history of public health and how much we do for our community.
- I enjoyed the 10 Public Health Essential Services and how evident it is that we meet those needs and expectations well.
- The timeline was an excellent tool to get to know others in the health department.
- It was helpful to learn about all employees because I am new to the agency.
- Seeing how/ what I do daily fits into the 10 Essential Services.

CCSR Public Health Initiatives develops people and organizations to improve the Public Health system in Kansas; empowers people through training, support and coaching; develops organizations through strategic planning, agency performance improvement and capacity building; and strengthens systems by facilitating statewide collaborative initiatives, peer learning, and creating opportunities for change. For more details on facilitation and other services offered by Center for Community Support and Research contact Sonja Armbruster at 316-978-3988 or [sonja.armbruster@wichita.edu](mailto:sonja.armbruster@wichita.edu).



## May 22 - Don't Fry Day

*by the Bureau of Health Promotion*

The National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention has designated the Friday before Memorial Day, May 22, as Don't Fry Day to raise awareness of skin cancer prevention and encourage everyone to protect their skin outdoors. Follow these sun safety action steps:

- Avoid sun tanning and tanning beds
- Cover up with protective clothing and sunglasses
- Seek shade
- Generously apply sunscreen
- Use extra caution near water, snow and sand



Visit the Don't Fry Day website [www.skincancerprevention.org](http://www.skincancerprevention.org) to download free resources to promote sun safety in your community.

## Fred the Preparedness Dog's Trip to the 2015 Preparedness Summit

*by Michael McNulty, Director of Homeland Security Operations, KDHE*



During the week of April 13-17, Fred the Preparedness Dog took his first venture outside the state of Kansas to visit the 2015 Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. Fred was invited to provide a 90 minute session documenting his program's development, future, and ways that it could be replicated in other communities across the nation. At the Summit, Fred had the opportunity to meet with approximately 1,700 other preparedness professionals from across the country to discuss new ideas, concerns, and opportunities for improvement. He also was given the chance to share on a National Association of County and City Health Officials podcast.

The session scheduled for Fred was originally limited to the first 30 pre-registered individuals. However, due to the overwhelming interest expressed by attendees, the conference organizers moved Fred's session to a room with 80 seats. When the presentation started, it was standing room only. Fred discussed his beginnings, core mission of educating young people and families on preparedness, educational materials that he leaves with children to reinforce his message, social media campaigns and some ideas for the future. The group asked many questions related to Fred and specifics about how to replicate in their jurisdiction.

For one group of young people staying at the conference hotel, it was also an opportunity to meet Fred and learn about preparing their own family and pets. For more information about Fred, "Like" him on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FredthePreparednessDogKDHE](http://www.facebook.com/FredthePreparednessDogKDHE), follow him on Twitter at @FredPrepDog, or visit his website, [www.fredthepreparednessdog.org](http://www.fredthepreparednessdog.org) to find out how to ask Fred to visit your community or event.

## KDHE Welcomes Nichole Fairley as Catalyst-TRAIN Coordinator

*by Jane Shirley, Director, Population Health Center and Local Public Health Program  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Nichole Fairley joined the Local Public Health Program April 13 as the new Catalyst-TRAIN Coordinator. Nichole is a graduate of the University of Kansas with a degree in Social Work and had been a Certified Parent Educator with Parents as Teachers (PAT) in the Topeka Public Schools for the past six years. At PAT she also served as the building technology assistant and, among other duties, at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Nichole will be assuming primary responsibility for technical assistance with Catalyst and KS-TRAIN for KDHE programs, Aid to Local grant recipients and TRAIN course providers. Nichole can be reached at [Nfairley@kdheks.gov](mailto:Nfairley@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-0425.

## National Dairy Council Celebrates 100 Years of Nutrition Research and Education

*by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager  
Midwest Dairy Council*

June Dairy Month is right around the corner and Midwest Dairy Council, the affiliate of National Dairy Council® (NDC), invites you to join in on the celebration. NDC, the non-profit organization funded by the national dairy check off program, is committed to nutrition research and education, since 1915 – so this year marks the centennial celebration! This means a century of pioneering programs, groundbreaking research and unwavering dedication to fostering healthy products, healthy people, healthy communities and a healthy planet. As NDC looks to the future, it will continue to evolve its work to support the health and wellbeing of all Americans.



Start planning now for June Dairy Month and help Midwest Dairy Council raise awareness of NDC and its wealth of resources to your networks as well as spreading the word about the benefits of dairy foods! Midwest Dairy Council is offering an [online toolkit](#) to help health and nutrition professionals get an early start on plans for June! The toolkit includes a variety of customizable materials like newsletter blurbs, a customizable press release, nutrition fact sheets, recipes, and infographics. Check it out now!

## The Dispatch - Severe Weather Awareness

*by the Office of Communications, KDHE*



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Office of Communications recently recorded a new episode for the Dispatch, a video series posted to YouTube which spotlights programs in the agency. In this episode you will hear from Doug Watson, KDHE Meteorologist and Michael McNulty, Preparedness Program, on severe weather awareness. Click the image to play the YouTube video.

## Funding Opportunities

### 2015 NURSE Corps Scholarship Program - Deadline May 21



The [2015 NURSE Corps Scholarship Program](#) application cycle is now open and will close on May 21, 6:30p.m. Please refer to the [2015 Application and Program Guidance](#) for all of the program requirements. This Program assists students completing their nursing education by paying tuition, fees, other education costs, while providing a monthly living stipend. The program is open to full-time or part-time nursing students accepted or enrolled in diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs at accredited schools located in the U.S. Upon graduation, scholarship program members fulfill a service commitment at an eligible NURSE Corps site.

The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program continues to be competitive and applicants are encouraged to begin the application process early as on average it takes approximately three weeks to complete the application. Applicants are encouraged to participate in an application technical assistance conference call with program staff. The next technical assistance conference call is available, May 16, Noon - 2:00 p.m., Dial-in Number: 1-800-779-8389, Passcode: 8645774. Prior to the call, applicants are also encouraged to view the [NURSE Corps Scholarship Technical Assistance Webinar](#) with more information on the application process and service requirements. To learn more, please view our member [story video](#) featuring Kay Smullen, at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD. NURSE Corps looks forward to receiving your completed application.

### Summer Food Service Program - Because Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation

*by Child Nutrition and Wellness, KSDE*



#### Summer Food Service Program

Child Nutrition & Wellness, KSDE

Just as learning does not end when school lets out, neither does the need for good nutrition. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), at the Kansas State Department of Education, provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to help children in low-income areas get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow, throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

Schools, public agencies, and private nonprofit organizations may apply to become a sponsor and receive reimbursement for food service to enhance their education or recreation program. Applications are due May 1 of each year. Click the Summer Food Service Program logo to learn more.

### Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grants - Deadline September 15



Kansas Health Foundation

Applications for the fall 2015 cycle of the Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grant program are due by September 15. Recognition Grants expand the Foundation's support to a broad range of organizations throughout the state. The grants are targeted to organizations and agencies proposing meaningful and charitable projects that fit within the Foundation's mission of improving the health of all Kansans. In addition to supporting projects, the Foundation also seeks to support initiatives that focus on promoting policy, systems and environmental (PSE) transformations that support health. To learn more, visit the official [Recognition Grant home page](#) for complete information.

**Save the Date!**  
**Kansas Public Health Association 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference**  
**September 16 - 17, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan**

**KPHA 2015**



# Training and Conference Announcements

## Billing and Coding Training for Kansas Local Health Departments - June 3

by Aaron Davis, Center for Community Support and Research  
Wichita State University



A Kansas Local Health Department (LHD) specific billing and coding training will take place on Wednesday, June 3 in Wichita at the Hotel in Old Town. This will be an all-day learning event and is being developed by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) with input from various local health departments. The training will aim to educate departments on correct coding procedures, maximizing revenues with evaluation and management codes, immunization administration and management, and the essential elements of ICD-10. All material covered will be directly related to LHD services.

With funds secured through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Immunization Program in conjunction with the Center for Community Support and Research (CCSR) at Wichita State University will be covering the costs for one participant from each LHD. Additional registrants are welcome and will be billed directly by AAPC at \$295.00 per additional participant.



There will be an online version of the training available after June 3. Departments who cannot make the in-person training will be allowed to register for the online version. The deadline for registration for both the in-person and the online version is Friday, May 1.



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT  
AND RESEARCH

For more details on the training and to register for the course, log onto <http://ks.train.org>, Billing and Coding Training for Kansas Local Health Departments, Course ID 1055866. Contact Aaron Davis with the Center for Community Support and Research for more information at 316-978-5884 or [aaron.davis@wichita.edu](mailto:aaron.davis@wichita.edu).

## WSU Dental Day High School Students - June 1

from [Oral Health Kansas](#)

Wichita State University Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program is hosting a Dental Day for students interested in a career in dentistry. Dental Day is a great opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in the field of dentistry and dental hygiene. This camp is geared toward high school students interested in the field of dentistry, including dental hygiene and dental assisting. This program will be held Friday, June 26, and registration closes June 1, or until all spots are filled. Find out more about this opportunity at the [Dental Day website](#).

## Military Culture: Core Competencies for Health Care Professionals Modules Posted to TRAIN

from VHA TRAIN



Increasing numbers of health care professionals with no prior military service history or experience working with military Service members, Veterans or their families are being called upon to deliver patient care to these rapidly growing populations. For current and former military Service members, the explicit organizational structures and implicit ideals and values comprising military culture play a significant and lifelong role in injury, illness and recovery.

In all fields of health care, but most especially in mental health evaluation and treatment, empathic therapeutic alliances and effective treatment plans require health care professionals to possess and utilize detailed knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding military and Veteran cultures and subcultures. To meet this training need, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) have jointly sponsored a plan to develop and implement an online Military Culture Training Curriculum for health care professionals. The curriculum for this training will encourage military cultural competency in health care professionals through the provision of interactive online training in the requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes.

This course has been divided into four online modules:

- [Module 1: Self-Assessment and Introduction to Military Ethos](#) - TRAIN ID 1056248
- [Module 2: Military Organization and Roles](#) - TRAIN ID 1056278
- [Module 3: Stressors and Resources](#) - TRAIN ID 1056299
- [Module 4: Treatment Resources and Tools](#) - TRAIN ID 1056303

These courses are offered to all health care professionals and public health providers, with mental health professionals as the primary audience. These courses are intended to benefit any health care professional who provides care for Service members, Veterans and their families, regardless of setting. This includes physicians---particularly psychiatrists, nurses, psychologists, social workers and counselors.

Please forward this note to other health practitioners who might also be interested in this learning opportunity. Access this course and more information on the [KS-TRAIN](#) and [VHA TRAIN](#) portals. For questions about this course or other issues related to VHA TRAIN, please contact our helpdesk at [VHATRIN@va.gov](mailto:VHATRIN@va.gov).



### NCIPH Launches New Tool at Preparedness Summit



At the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Preparedness Summit in April, the North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH) shared tools and resources as well as research findings in public health preparedness from the UNC Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center (UNC PERLC) and the NC Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center.

NCIPH launched the new [Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities Assessment Tool](#) (PHEP CAT), a real-time assessment tool to help local health departments rapidly assess their preparedness capabilities and readily access top-tier resources. In collaboration with NACCHO, this project has integrated a portfolio of [top-tier resources](#), vetted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NACCHO, and the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), to assist local health departments in meeting select public health preparedness capabilities. Users will also receive recommended trainings from the NCIPH Training Website for each of their selected PHEP capabilities.

### CDC Announces the Public Health 101 Series

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health 101 Series, provides foundational teaching tools and learning products covering critical sciences essential to public health practice. The fundamental scientific components are wide and varied, spanning topics from the fields of epidemiology, health economics, data management, and laboratory science, to public health policy.



These learning products are designed for:

- Public health professionals
- Persons new to public health
- Public health educators, instructors, or leads in specific fields
- Those interested in pursuing public health careers

Whether you are a seasoned professional with decades of experience looking for PowerPoint presentations to use to teach others the basics or someone new to the field searching for e-learning products to introduce you to public health sciences, the Public Health 101 Series can meet your needs. Click the logo to learn more.

### CDC Quick Learn Lesson – How to Build an Epi Curve



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Quick Learn Lessons](#) page provides public health-related learning products and activities that take 20 minutes or less to complete. Products are also accessible from your mobile device, so you can learn on the go. Quick-Learn lessons help you develop basic public health

knowledge and skills in specific areas through interactivity and practice.

Epi Lessons include:

- [Create an Epi Curve](#) (10 minutes): Learn how to create a visual display of the onset of illness among cases associated with an outbreak.
- [Using an Epi Curve to Determine Mode of Spread](#) (10 minutes): Learn how to determine the outbreak's likely mode of spread by analyzing an epidemic curve.
- [Using an Epi Curve to Determine Most Likely Period of Exposure](#) (10 minutes): Learn how to interpret an epidemic curve, and determine the likely period of exposure that led to the outbreak.

### New Online Courses Posted to TRAIN

Improving the Health of Communities through the National Prevention Strategy - Designing Healthy Communities, [Course ID # 1056862](#): This web on demand course from the Centers for Disease and Prevention provides participants on specific evidence based practices that will help align their individual health care practice or community based efforts with the National Prevention Strategy priorities and Affordable Care Act goals of moving our nation to one that is focused on prevention and health. Continuing education credits are available through July 18.



KALHD and KHI: Strategic Planning Essentials for Health Departments, [Course ID# 1056998](#): This new online course developed by the Kansas Health Institute in partnership with the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, the KU Medical Center's Area Health Education Centers, and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment provides the basics of conducting a strategic plan. The training will provide information, general steps, tools and guidance that assist local health departments to conduct a department strategic planning process guided by PHAB requirements.

### LearnFree.org Provides Free Tools for Learning



If you or anyone in your organization is looking to learn more about Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook or Social media you might check out this website. The resources are free. You don't have to create an account, it is easy to use, tutorials are very specific and broken down by version and it is interactive. Click the GCF logo to learn more.



# News and Resources



## Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be May 26. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

## The Terrible Loneliness of Growing Up Poor in Robert Putnam's America

**The Washington Post** The Harvard political scientist, famous for his book "Bowling Alone" that warned of the decline of American community, has returned to his alma mater to talk, this time, about inequality. Not between the 99 percent and the 1 percent, but between two groups that have also fallen further apart: children born to educated parents who are more likely to read to them as babies, to drive them to dance class, to nudge them into college themselves - and children whose parents live at the edge of economic survival. Click the Washington Post logo to read the complete article.

## Financial Sector Has Key Role in Pandemic Planning, World Bank President Says

Investing in the world's capacity to respond to epidemics "is really investing in the resilience of the global economic system," said World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim. He said natural disasters and disease outbreaks have a devastating impact on economic growth, with the countries and citizens least able to afford it bearing the heaviest burden. The World Bank has estimated that the Ebola epidemic is taking a \$1.6 billion bite out of the economies of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Click the logo above to read the complete article.

**SCIENCEINSIDER**

## Preparedness: Moving Beyond the Stockpiling of Stuff



Equipment, plans, and personnel are only as good as their ability to perform when needed. When disaster strikes, it is imperative that local, state, and federal levels of government, emergency management, volunteer organizations, and healthcare coalitions are all operationally ready and trained to use all of the "stuff" they have acquired over the years. Click the Domestic Preparedness logo to read the complete article.

## Evidence-Informed Policy Making: The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation

A report by UNICEF printed in the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools discusses how evaluation and monitoring are used in the process of developing evidence-based policies within the aid and development sector. Specific sections of this report are relevant for public health decision-makers and policy-makers. For example, this method would be of particular interest to policy-makers examining different policy options to improve health through changes in the built environment based on research and evaluation findings. Click the logo to learn more.



## News from ASTHO

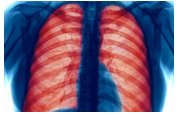


The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) has developed the report [Combating Antibiotic Resistance: Policies to Promote Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs](#), which describes current state antimicrobial resistance efforts and presents a range of opportunities for health agencies to develop or enhance stewardship policies and activities. The report and associated web pages present the results of a survey of healthcare-associated infections coordinators, findings from three state capacity building projects addressing policy barriers, and recommendations, tools, and examples for states. The report also provides options and resources that state health agencies can use to develop and promote antimicrobial stewardship programs as they work toward an overall strategy for combating antimicrobial resistance.

Prescription drug profiles for 48 states, two U.S. territories, and one freely associated state were [released](#) by ASTHO to provide an understanding of the current environment of state activities to address prescription drug abuse, ranging from prevention strategies to surveillance and monitoring, law enforcement, and treatment and recovery. ASTHO developed the profiles based on data from a 2014 member survey about activities and policies to address prescription opioid abuse and overdose; the survey instrument was developed based on recommendations from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and CDC Injury Center.

ASTHO released its 2014 [Health Equity State Snapshots](#), which include summaries of data collected through ASTHO's third Health Equity-Minority Health Survey to assess health equity efforts in the U.S. states and territories. The survey examined health equity infrastructure, funding allocation and expenditures, and strategic plans and partnerships in each responding jurisdiction. The analysis allows for data comparison longitudinally and between jurisdictions and is foundational to ASTHO's efforts to support its members and state public health infrastructure through best practices research. These snapshots provide information that state health officials and their teams can use to improve health for all populations that they serve.

### Managing COPD ... It is possible!



Fighting for each breath is only part of the struggle for those living with [Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease](#) (COPD). Chronic lower respiratory disease, primarily COPD, is the third leading cause of death in the United States. According to a new report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COPD is linked to an increased number of people being unable to work and decreased activity. This outcome was even more pronounced for those who are current smokers and are physically inactive.

### Public Health Revisited: Courses and Degrees in Public Health Work

In the March 17 issue of the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#), M.J. Rosenau, M.D., stated that a school for health officers in a university organization should occupy a position as separate as that of the medical school, the dental school, the engineering school or the law school. A school for health officers needs a separate faculty, but also needs cooperation with other schools in the university. Thus it needs sanitary law from the law school, sanitary engineering from the engineering school, oral prophylaxis from the dental school, the medical sciences from the medical school. A school for health officers, in fact, must reach out more widely than the resources of any university. Thus, it needs the contagious disease hospital; it needs the city board of health, the state department of health and the federal Public Health Service, for instruction, for inspiration and for opportunities that lie without the bounds of any university. A school for health officers also interlocks with many private and semipublic philanthropic organizations....” Click the JAMA logo to view the complete article.



### What's the Top Contamination Hazard in Your Kitchen?



Hand towels are the top contamination hazard in the kitchen, according to a [new study](#). Cellphones are another potential source of kitchen cross-contamination, the researchers found. Cross-contamination refers to the accidental transfer of potentially hazardous germs from one surface to another.

### American Journal of Public Health Highlights TRAIN Data

The [American Journal of Public Health](#) published an article in April which analyzed data from TRAIN to describe the public health workforce and characteristics of individual public health workers. No single system currently provides the number of public health employees working in the U.S. or provides information on the composition and training levels of these employees. Understanding the public health workforce and its makeup remains key to building a healthier nation and is part of the [Public Health Services and Systems Research](#).



### National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria



The White House announced in March, its five-year [National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria](#), identifying the critical actions that key federal departments and agencies will take in the fight against the spread of antibiotic-resistant microbes. Implementing the plan will require coordinated efforts from groups around the world, and state health agencies will play a critical role in this work.

### Sleep, Work and Poverty Connections

Health researchers are underscoring the connection between [sleep, work, and poverty](#)—and the immense value of sleeping in. More than ever, working Americans are starved of sleep: Up to 30% of employed adults [report routinely sleeping less](#) than six hours a night, representing approximately 40.6 million workers. The [American Academy of Sleep Medicine](#) recommends that adults get about seven to nine hours of nightly sleep for optimal health, productivity, and alertness. Short sleepers are also potentially sacrificing their health and safety: Short sleep duration has been linked to obesity, diabetes, hypertension, stroke, coronary artery disease, and higher levels of mortality in general.



### Federal Trade Commission Releases Two Tobacco Reports



The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recently released two reports "[Federal Trade Commission Cigarette Report for 2012](#)" and "[Federal Trade Commission Smokeless Tobacco Report for 2012](#)," which show a decline in cigarette sales and an increase in smokeless tobacco sales. Large cigarette companies' spending and marketing rose from \$8.37 billion in 2011 to \$9.17 billion in 2012, primarily due to an increase in spending on price discounts. Marketing expenditures of smokeless tobacco products in the United States rose from \$444.2 million in 2010 to \$451.7 million in 2011, and declined to \$435.7 billion in 2012. Smokeless tobacco sales rose from 122.7 million pounds in 2011 to 125.5 million pounds in 2012.

### More Diabetes Cases Seen in States With Expanded Medicaid

A study published in Diabetes Care showed a 23% increase in the number of new diabetes cases identified in states that expanded Medicaid, compared with a 0.4% increase in states that did not expand the program. Researchers also said patients were more likely to be diagnosed at an earlier disease stage in states that had expanded Medicaid. [U.S. News & World Report/Data Mine blog](#).



## Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

### Ford County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

### Finney County Health Department

- [Staff RN](#)

### Reno County Health Department

- [Preparedness Coordinator Grant Funded](#)
- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)

### Riley County Health Department

- [Raising Riley Child Care Literacy Facilitator](#)

### Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Animal Control Officer](#)
- [Director of Health Protection](#)
- [Epidemiologist](#)
- [FIMR Coordinator](#)
- [Health Babies Program Manager](#)
- [Health Promotion Program Coordinator](#)
- [Part-Time Fetal Infant Mortality](#)
- [WIC Clerk](#)
- [WIC Registered Dietitian/Public Health Nurse](#)

### Shawnee County Health Agency

- [RN \(Primary Care-Women's Health-Float\)](#)
- [RN MCH Outreach \(Health Agency\)](#)
- [Social Worker-MSW-LHD](#)

### Wyandotte County

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

### Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

### Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, e-mail [bchs@kdheks.gov](mailto:bchs@kdheks.gov).

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public\\_health\\_connections.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm)

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at [dnickels@kdheks.gov](mailto:dnickels@kdheks.gov).